

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:654
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003
STOLEN OF NIAZI'S PISTOL
RAM JEEVAN SINGH;RAM VILAS PASWAN

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a pistol of Pakistani Commander Lt. General A.A.K. Niazi which was handed over to the Indian Army at Dhaka at the time of surrender during the Indo-Pak war in 1971, has been stolen from the Naval Gallery in the National Museum in Delhi;
- (b) whether the Naval Gallery is guarded by the Naval personnel;
- (c) if so, whether the Government have made any inquiry into the lapses in the security arrangements leading to the theft of the pistol;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) No, Sir. The pistol, which was stolen recently from the National Museum, was the personal weapon of Rear Admiral Mohammad Sharif, Flag Officer Commanding of the then East Pakistan Naval Forces.
- (b) No, Sir. The security of the National Museum is provided by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)The Naval personnel are posted at the Naval Gallery to act as information guide.
- (c) to (e): The matter is under investigation by Delhi Police.